

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached replacement sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1 and Fig. 2. This sheet includes non-handwritten numbers 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 29, as well as non-handwritten titles FIG. 1 and FIG. 2, per Examiner's objection.

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the latest communications from the US Patent Office, including the cited prior art. In response to the outstanding office action, Applicant has cancelled claims 1-9 and rewritten objected to claims 3 and 6 in independent form as new claims 10 and 11 respectively. In view of the amendments made, Applicant believes this application to now be allowable and accordingly, applicant requests issuance of a timely notice of allowance.

Further, Applicant has provided new formal drawings for Figures 1 and 2 in accordance with Examiner's objection.

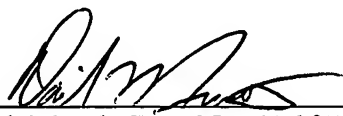
Applicant has also amended the specification such that the first author of the paper is now correctly identified as "S.E. Zocholl" instead of "S.A. Zocholl" per Examiner's objection.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that in view of the amendments to the claims, this application is now in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore requests issuance of a timely notice of allowance. However, should Examiner be of the opinion that further amendment or response is required, Applicant encourages Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below. Further, although no additional fees are believed to be due at this time, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo, Cummings & Mehler, Ltd., Deposit Account No. 50-1039 with reference to attorney docket number (1444-0003).

Respectfully submitted,

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